Gypsy Moth Survey Plan
West Virginia
1985

West Virginia is currently infested with the gypsy moth in the Eastern Panhandle and 1984 trapping results indicate that the same situation may exist in the Northern Panhandle (Attachment I). Both areas are located adjacent to infestations in the ajoining states and in the path of the natural spread out of the Northeast. Historically trapping programs in the State have been concentrated in these areas, the counties immediately South, and along the Virginia state line (Attachment II). The southwestern portion of the State has recieved only spotty and limited trapping attention. There is no evidence that possible infested areas exist in the State other than those indicated above.

Timber is the largest agricultural crop in West Virginia. Seventy-five percent of the total land area in the State is classed as forest land.[1] Oak-hickory is the principal forest type covering 59 percent of the forested area. During the period 1949 thru 1975 commercial forest areas increased 16 percent. Reversion of pastureland to forest cover has increased this percentage even further since 1975.

About 1.3 million acres of land in West Virginia are administered by public agencies. Nearly a million acres are in National Forests, mostly located in the Appalacian Highlands in the Eastern part of the State. Over 10 million people live within 150 miles of the public lands. These public lands are the primary source of dispersed and primitive-type outdoor recreation for this growing population. The U. S. Forest Service estimates that dispersed outdoor recreation will increase more than 1 million visitor days by 1985 and 2.5 million by the year 2000. A large number of these visitors are from infested areas in the Northeastern states.

Geographically West Virginia is located 40 degrees, 38 minute North Latitude (Chester, WV) or the same latitude as Staten Island, New York. The southern most point in the State is 37 degrees, 12 minutes North Latitude or 60 miles South of Richmond, Virginia. The eastern most point is located at 77 degrees, 43 minutes West Longitude or 50 miles East of Buffalo, New York. The western most point is located 82 degrees, 30 minutes West Longitude or 40 miles West of Cleveland, Ohio. Its location combined with large, dense, preferred host stands, and a large growing tourist industry makes it particularly vulnerable to the onslaught of the gypsy moth.

For the 1985 survey, an area consisting of twelve counties (Attachment III) has been identified in conjunction with the West Virginia Department of Agriculture for trapping. These are heavily forested counties with numerous state parks and forests (Attachment IV) which recieve a large number of visitors from outside the State. Approximately 77 percent can be classed in Category 1 and the remaining 23 percent in Category 2. None of the area can be classed in Category 3.

[1] The Forest Resources of West Virginia, Forest Service Resource Bulletin NE-56 1978, USDA, FS

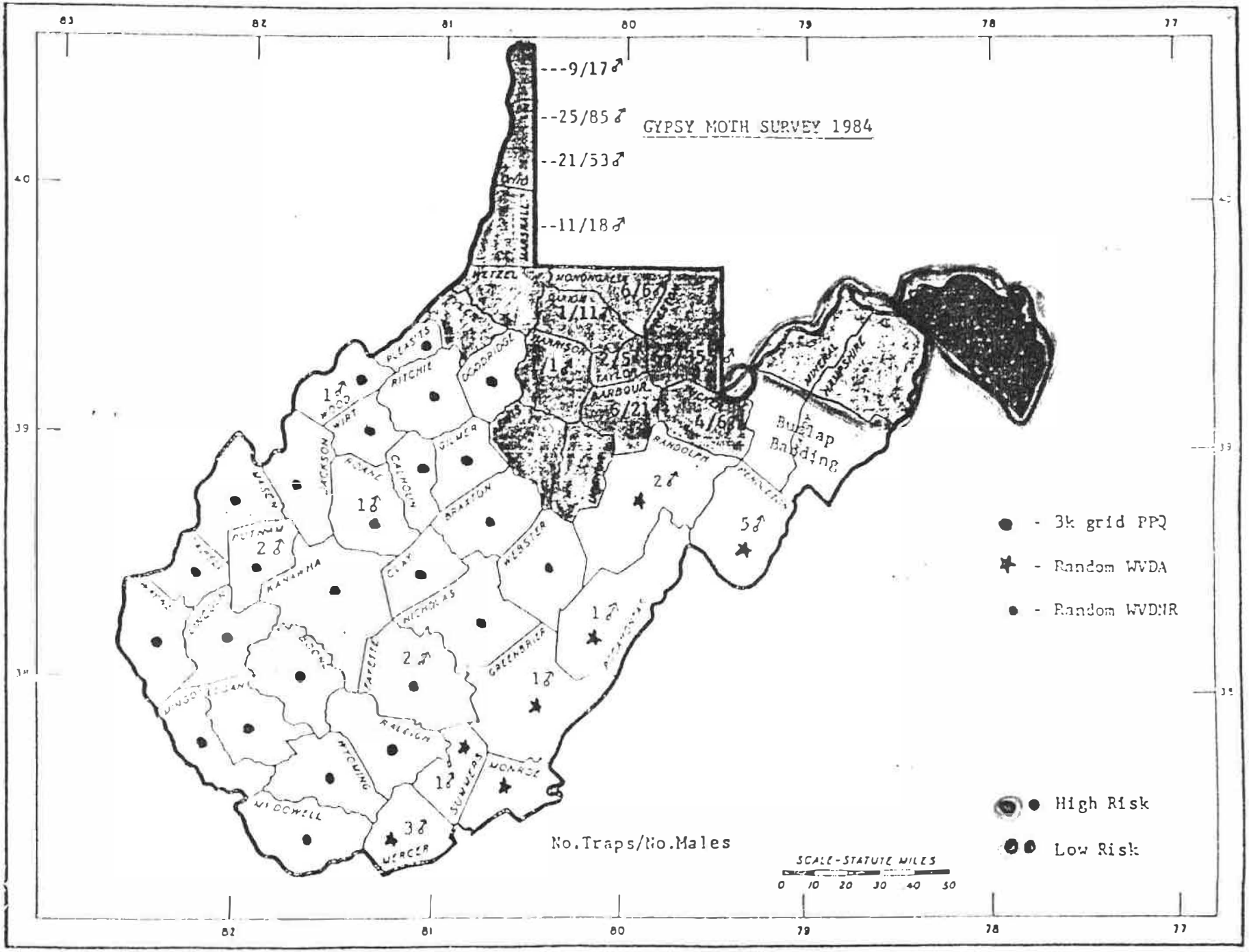
In addition to trapping in these twelve counties, 1448 traps have been included for random trapping in that portion of the State South and West of these counties by State personnel. It is anticipated that in those counties indicated in green on Attachment III high use areas will be trapped by the U. S. Forest Service. These counties contain large acreages which are a part of the George Washington National Forest.

Figures contained in this work plan are based on PPQ funding. Matching state funds are not available.

Herbert L. Smith
Officer-in-Charge, West Virginia
October 24, 1984

Attachments

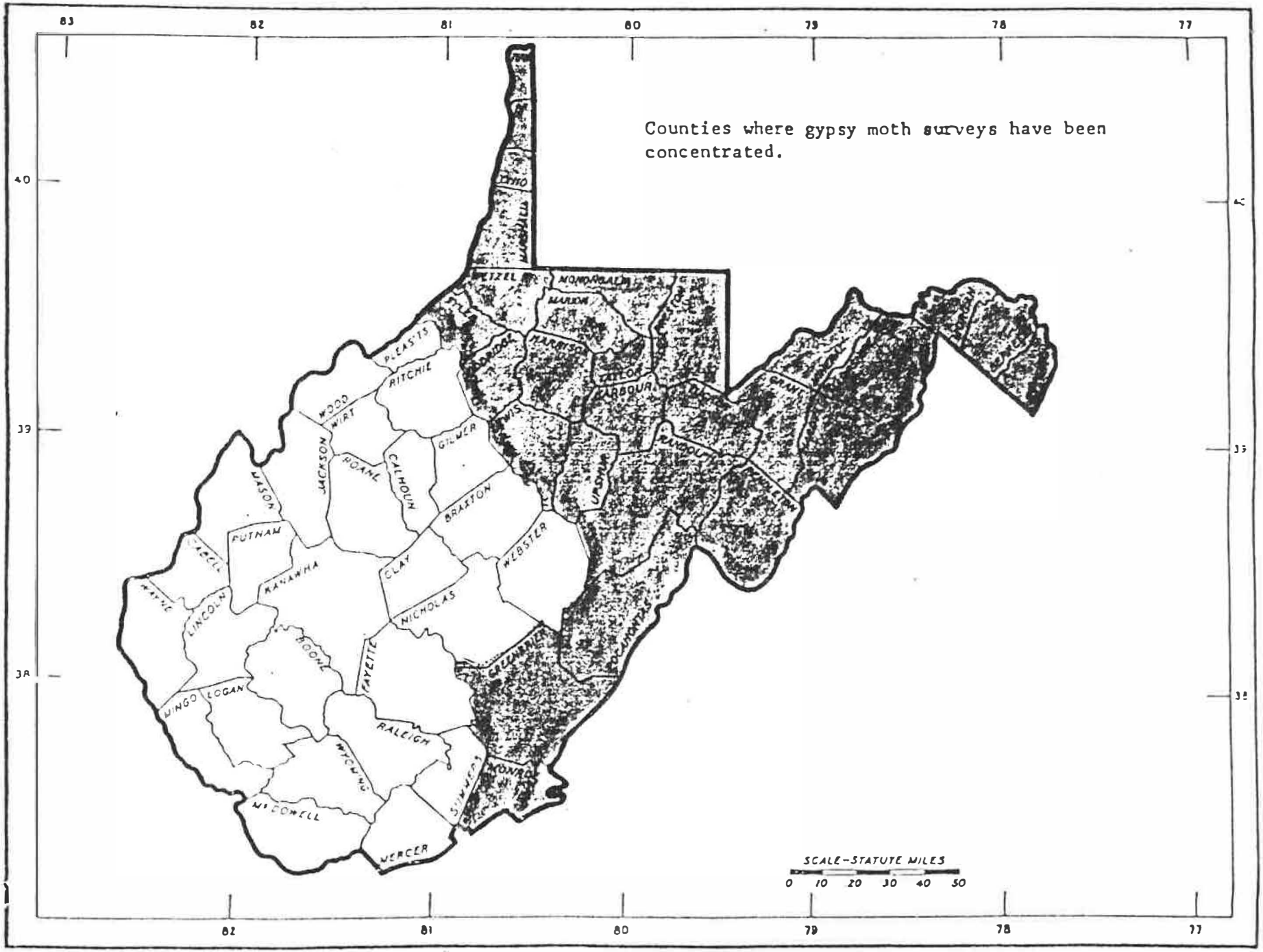
WEST VIRGINIA



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Attachment I

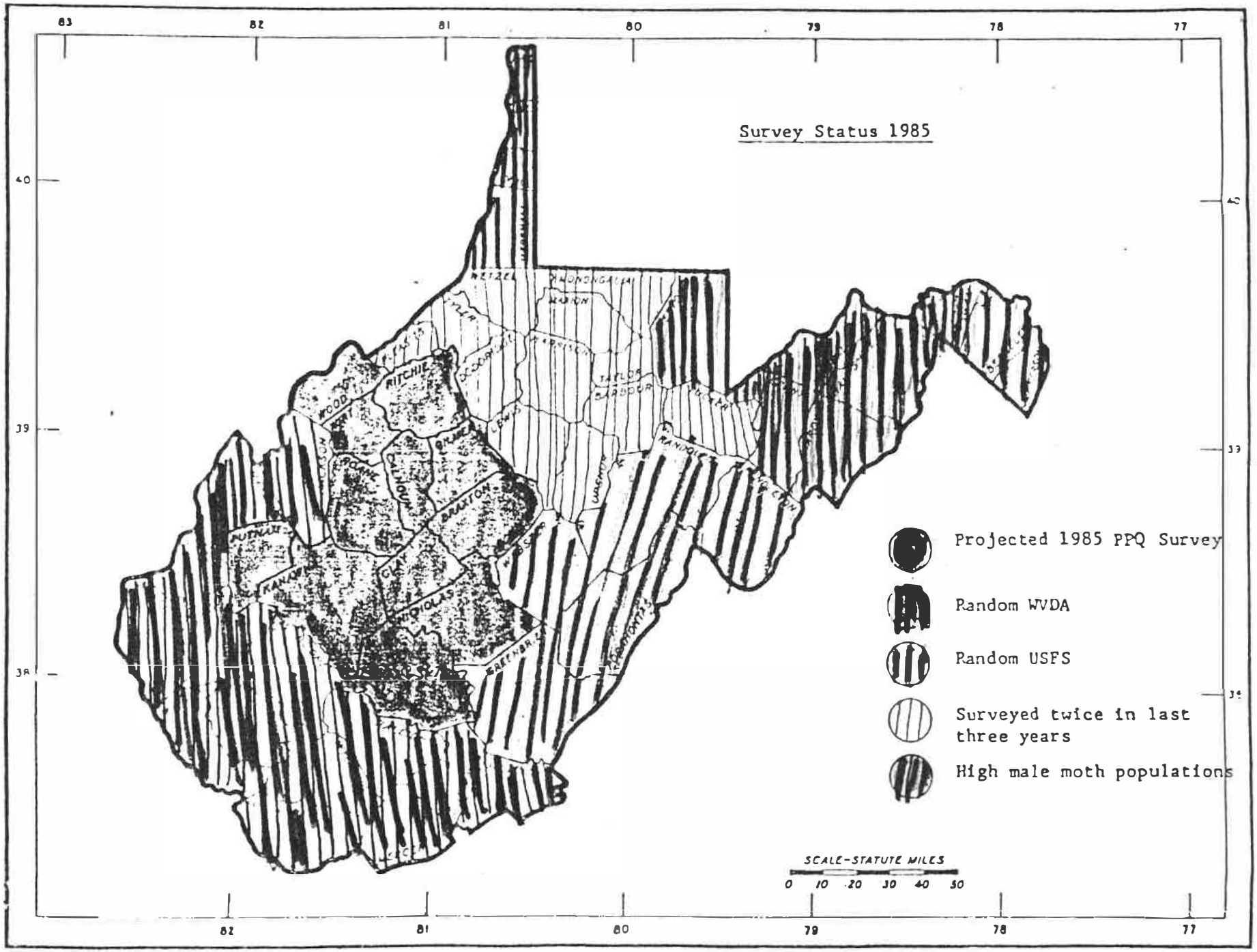
WEST VIRGINIA



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Attachment II

WEST VIRGINIA



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Attachment III

Gypsy Moth Survey
West Virginia
1985

	County	Category 1 Sq. Miles	Category 2 Sq. Miles	Total
1.	Braxton	395.31 (76%)	121.72 (24%)	517.03
2.	Calhoun	216.41 (77%)	64.53 (23%)	280.94
3.	Clay	296.41 (86%)	46.56 (14%)	342.97
4.	Fayette*	530.63 (80%)	132.34 (20%)	662.97
5.	Gilmer*	254.69 (75%)	84.38 (25%)	339.06
6.	Kanawha*	715.78 (79%)	191.09 (21%)	906.88
7.	Nicholas*	527.50 (81%)	122.50 (19%)	650.00
8.	Putnam	244.22 (70%)	103.75 (30%)	347.97
9.	Ritchie*	339.38 (75%)	112.66 (25%)	452.03
10.	Roane	330.31 (68%)	155.63 (32%)	485.94
11.	Wirt	192.34 (82%)	42.66 (18%)	235.00
12.	Wood	241.72 (66%)	126.72 (34%)	368.44
		4284.70 (77%)	1304.54 (23%)	5589.23

* Contain large high use State Park and Forest Acreage

Data from The Forest Resources of West Virginia, Forest Services Resource Bulletin NE-56, USDA, USFS

Projected Trap Numbers

	County	Category 1	Category 2	Total
1.	Braxton	197	16	213
2.	Calhoun	108	8	116
3.	Clay	148	6	154
4.	Fayette	265	17	282
5.	Gilmer	127	11	138
6.	Kanawha	358	24	382
7.	Nicholas	263	16	279
8.	Putnam	122	13	135
9.	Ritchie	170	14	184
10.	Roane	165	19	184
11.	Wirt	96	5	101
12.	Wood	122	16	138
		2141	165	2306*

(1) Category 1 = 77% X 5589 = 4303 ÷ 2 = } 2151 Traps*
(2) Category 2 = 23% X 5589 = 1286 ÷ 8 = } 161
(3) Special Sites (WVDA) = 1448
(4) 15% for replacing lost traps etc. 564

4324 Traps

*Difference of 6 traps when calculated by individual county.

Cost Projection

2312 250 = 9 Trappers

Salary	: 440 X 9 X $6	=	$23,760 Salaries
Mileage*	: 6000 X 9 X $.205	=	11,070 Vehicles
Traps	: 4324 X $.80	=	3,459 Traps
			$38,289

*Based on mileage used in 1984 by L/A's in West Virginia

United States Department of Agriculture

An
Pla
Ins

:nda Lane
3 5
:on, WV 25312

Oct 24, 1984

ae

For your info - and returned papers you loaned me.

Herb

Subject: Gypsy Moth Survey

Date: October 24, 1984

To: C. C. Jackson
Area Director

As requested, attached are copies of our gypsy moth survey proposal for West Virginia for 1985. I have not included the Category data for all counties in the State. If necessary these can be worked up in the same manner as Attachment IV. Project work outline will follow.

Herb

Herbert L. Smith
Officer-in-Charge

cc: A. Cole

Attachments